### IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF OKLAHOMA

JOSEPH DEGEARE,	)	
	)	
Petitioner,	)	
	)	
vs.	) Case No. CIV-15-1143-H	$\mathbf{E}$
	)	
STATE OF OKLAHOMA,	)	
	)	
${f Respondent.}^1$	)	

#### REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION

Joseph DeGeare (Petitioner), a pro se federal prisoner confined at USP Tucson, brings this petition under 28 U.S.C. § 2241 for a writ of habeas corpus, challenging "Detainer(s)" filed by the Oklahoma City Police Department for assault and battery and driving under the influence. Doc. 1, at 1.2 As his requested relief, he asks that the "detainer(s) and warrant(s) . . . be vacated so that the petitioner will not be denied RDAP Program and custody level status[.]" *Id.* at 9. Petitioner's single ground for the requested relief is that he has been denied due process. *Id.* at 4. He explains that "[o]n

Petitioner does not challenge his present physical confinement and, properly, did not name his immediate physical custodian as respondent "because *there* [is] no immediate physical custodian with respect to the 'custody' being challenged." Rumsfeld v. Padilla, 542 U.S. 426, 439 (2004).

Page citations to the petition and its attachments are in sequential order and reflect this court's CM/ECF pagination and designation. Unless otherwise indicated, quotations are reproduced verbatim.

July 7, 2014 an detainer was lodged against my detention causing my custody level to remain high, and causing denial of the RDAP Program, Residential Alcohol Program because of the warrant's." *Id*.

United States District Judge Joe Heaton referred the matter for initial proceedings consistent with 28 U.S.C. § 636(b)(1)(B), (C), and it is now before the undersigned Magistrate Judge. Doc. 4. Pursuant to Rule 4 of the Rules Governing Section 2254 Cases, the undersigned has promptly examined the petition and recommends its summary dismissal.<sup>3</sup>

## I. Petitioner cannot satisfy 28 U.S.C. § 2241's custody requirement.

#### A. A detainer is required.

"Habeas corpus review is available under § 2241 if [the petitioner] is 'in custody in violation of the Constitution or laws or treaties of the United States." *McIntosh v. U.S. Parole Comm'n*, 115 F.3d 809, 811 (10th Cir. 1997) (quoting 28 U.S.C. § 2241(c)(3)). If a state has filed a detainer against a prisoner, "he is currently 'in custody' within the meaning of the federal habeas corpus statute" and may "attack on habeas corpus . . . confinement

Rule 4 may be applied in the court's discretion to actions brought pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 2241. See Rule 1(b), Rules Governing 2254 Cases in the United States District Courts. See also Boutwell v. Keating, 399 F.3d 1203, 1210 n.2 (10th Cir. 2005) (district court acted within its discretion in applying the Section 2254 Rules to prisoner's § 2241 petition) (citing Rule 1(b)).

that would be imposed in the future . . . ." Braden v. 30th Jud. Cir. Ct. of Ky., 410 U.S. 484, 488-89 (1973). Braden did not resolve, however, "whether, if no detainer had been issued against him, petitioner would be sufficiently 'in custody" to challenge a state court indictment – or, as here, a municipal court warrant – through a habeas court action. Id. at 489 n.4. "However, courts faced with the issue have consistently concluded" that § 2241's custody requirement is satisfied only when a court has lodged a detainer against a habeas petitioner. Wade v. Hamilton Cnty. Prosecutor's Office, No. 1:11-cv-590, 2011 WL 5920770, at \*2 (S.D. Ohio Nov. 7, 2011) (unpublished report and recommendation) (collecting cases in support), adopted by 2011 WL 5914003 (S.D. Ohio Nov. 28, 2011) (unpublished order).

#### B. Petitioner does not challenge a detainer.

Petitioner claims to challenge a July 7, 2014 decision by the Oklahoma City Police Department to issue a detainer. Doc. 1, at 2, 1, 4. But to support his claim, Petitioner submits a copy of a Detainer Action Letter sent on July 7, 2014, by the Federal Bureau of Prisons to the Oklahoma City Police Department. *Id.* at 10. The letter relied on information from Petitioner's federal pre-sentence report indicating that Petitioner may have "pending charges/outstanding warrants" arising out of a September 26, 1993 assault and battery arrest and a November 30, 1993 driving under the influence arrest. *Id.* The letter requested the Oklahoma City Police Department to

advise whether they "desire to have" any warrant lodged as a detainer. *Id.*What Petitioner characterizes as a detainer, issued against him on July 7,
2014, by the Oklahoma City Police Department, simply is not. He is subject
to outstanding warrants, not a detainer, and § 2241's custody requirement is
not satisfied.

# II. Even had Oklahoma City Police Department lodged a detainer, Petitioner alleges no constitutional violation.

Oklahoma Petitioner maintains the City Police Department "detainer(s) and warrant(s)" adversely impact his custody level status and his eligibility for RDAP, violating his right to due process. *Id.* at 9, 4. Supreme Court, however, has generally "rejected the notion that every state action carrying adverse consequences for prison inmates automatically activates a due process right." Moody v. Daggett, 429 U.S. 78, 88 n.9 (1976). As to "prisoner classification and eligibility for rehabilitative programs in the federal system[,] Congress has given federal prison officials full discretion to control these conditions of confinement, 18 U.S.C. § 4081, and petitioner has no legitimate statutory or constitutional entitlement sufficient to invoke due process." Id.; see also Standifer v. Ledezma, 653 F.3d 1276, 1280 (10th Cir. 2011) ("A prisoner has no constitutional right to participate in RDAP" and "no liberty interest in discretionary early release for completion of RDAP . . . .").

III. Recommendation and notice of right to object.

For the reasons stated, the undersigned recommends the summary

dismissal of Petitioner's habeas corpus action. Doc. 1.

The undersigned advises Petitioner of his right to file an objection to

this Report and Recommendation with the Clerk of Court on or before

November 29, 2015, under 28 U.S.C. § 636(b)(1) and Fed. R. Civ. P. 72(b)(2).

The undersigned further advises Petitioner that failure to file a timely

objection to this Report and Recommendation waives his right to appellate

review of both factual and legal issues contained herein. Moore v. United

States, 950 F.2d 656, 659 (10th Cir. 1991).

The undersigned directs the Clerk of Court to transmit a copy of this

Report and Recommendation through electronic mail to the Attorney General

of the State of Oklahoma on behalf of the Respondents at the following

address: fhc.docket@oag. state.ok.us.

This Report and Recommendation disposes of all issues referred to the

undersigned Magistrate Judge in this matter.

ENTERED this 9th day of November, 2015.

SUZANNE MITCHELL

UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE

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